



CALL FOR EVIDENCE

Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (Vibration White Finger) and the use of jack hammers when underpinning foundations in building, construction or subsidence engineering work

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC) provides advice to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in Great Britain and the Department for Social Development in Northern Ireland about the Industrial Injuries scheme – the scheme by which employed earners in the UK receive benefits for industrial accidents or certain scheduled occupational diseases (prescribed diseases).

IIAC is currently seeking evidence about Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS)/Vibration White Finger (VWF) and the use of jack hammers to underpin foundations in building, construction or subsidence engineering work. This review will consider whether current scientific and medical evidence justifies extending the prescription for Prescribed Disease A11 (HAVS) to include the use of these percussive hand powered tools in these type of occupational circumstances.

IIAC is specifically looking for population based (epidemiological) evidence showing the risks of HAVS in workers using jack hammers to underpin foundations. Data about the frequency or duration of use of these tools when used in building, construction or subsidence engineering would also be welcome.

Further information on the scheme and the criteria IIAC uses in reviewing the terms of prescription can be found at www.gov.uk/iiac.

Any organisation or individual with scientific or medical evidence to contribute to this review is invited to submit it to the Council at the address below no later than 7th March 2016.

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[February 2016]